

**TOP SECRET**  
SECURITY INFORMATION

Department of Defense Suggested Alternative Wording for the General Conclusions in the Status Report to the Psychological Strategy Board

1. To be fully effective, psychological planning at the strategic level should ideally be based upon an agreed overall strategic concept for the national psychological effort. While this ideal is probably unattainable, some progress has been and can be made in developing such a concept within present national policy but only to the extent that it is recognized as a compilation of broad generalized criteria that may be utilized in establishing relative priorities within capabilities at any given time.

2. The United States is not making significant progress toward its objective of reduction and retraction of Soviet power as laid down in NSC 20/4, nor is it certain that the United States is even holding its own in the psychological struggle with the Soviet world. The difficulty appears to lie partly in our inability to employ existing capabilities in the absence of clear-cut plans for the implementation of this national policy, and partly in the time required to develop the requisite capabilities, especially in view of Soviet measures which maintain the Iron Curtain with increasing effectiveness.

3. Also worthy of special note is at least one of our major handicaps in psychological operations outside of the Iron Curtain. Here our program is developing under the severe handicap of increasing resentment in parts of Asia and throughout most of Europe to the "made in America" label on a psychological output. Of even graver significance, however, is the increasing reaction against the military character of our political and economic activity. The programs designed to have a deterrent effect on the Soviet Union are occasioning increased resistance, neutralism, and charges of aggressiveness to the detriment of our psychological effort outside the Iron Curtain.

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